

**ABSTRACT**

An improved feature set and accompanying image-content-based management/search method/algorithm enable fast and effective searching of a collection of digital color images to identify a particular image or group of images.

- 5 The feature set, which is designed for EXIF formatted thumbnail color images, is derived from select transform (e.g., DCT) coefficients of the individual color components of the searched images. The feature set comprises color features, edge features, and texture features including texture-type, texture-scale and texture-energy. The feature set of a query image is compared to the feature sets of images
- 10 in the relevant search range to identify all similar images.